



Course Syllabus: Brass Methods

College of Fain

MUSC 3161

Contact Information

Instructor: Chris Vivio

Office: C117L

Office hours: See Bulletin Board

Office phone: (940) 397-4185

Cell Phone: Optional

E-mail: Enter email (must be web link)

General Objectives

- To provide each student with the skills and knowledge necessary to instruct beginning, intermediate and advanced students in brass wind instrument performance and pedagogy.
- To assist each student in attaining a basic level of performance on trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium and tuba with an emphasis on characteristic tone and technique development.
- To provide each student with a basic understanding of the history, repertoire and performance demands of each of the five major brass wind instruments.
- Topics, discussions, and handouts will address:
 - Harmonic Series
 - Embouchure
 - Breath
 - Tone production
 - Instrument care
 - Minor maintenance/repairs
 - Transpositions
 - Popular methods and studies for each instrument
 - Teaching resources for educators of Brass instruments
 - Anatomy of Brass instruments
 - History of Brass instruments
- To assist the student in the attaining the ability to accept, amend, or reject methods and materials based on personal assessment of specific teaching situations.

- To assist the student in attaining the ability to assess aptitudes, experiential backgrounds, orientations of individuals and groups of students, and the nature of subject matter, and to plan educational programs to meet assessed needs.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

- Scott Whitener. *A Complete Guide to Brass*
- Bruce Pearson *Standard of Excellence Comprehensive Band Method 1.*
- Sharp pencils, erasers, and a notebook.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Assignments, classwork, participation	40%,
Written Tests 1 & 2 (2 @ 15% each)	30%
Playing Tests	30%

Policies

1) If you are having trouble with *any* aspect of this course, please see the instructor as soon as possible.

2) Professional, adult behavior and etiquette is expected. Be on time, prepared, and ready for work.

Work on material related to this course during our meeting time. Classroom behavior that interferes

with either the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of students to benefit from the instruction is not acceptable. Examples may include routinely entering class late or departing early, eating, and the use of cellular telephones, text messaging, computers, or other electronic devices. In the case of inappropriate behavior, the student involved will be asked to leave and this will count as an unexcused absence from class.

3) Attendance is expected at each class meeting as noted in the syllabus. Students are allowed 3 absences (i.e., skipping class), but 5 percentage points will be deducted from the student's semester grade for each unexcused absence beyond the 3 allowable absences (i.e.: four absences and a 93% final grade = 88%, five absences and a 93% final grade = 83%,).

4) Assignments or tests that are missed cannot be made up. The only exception to this is if an absence is "excused" with a Provost's excuse from the university.

5) Chronic tardiness is disruptive to the class and is therefore unacceptable. The door may be locked if tardiness becomes a disruptive issue.

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Instructor Class Policies

Indicate here policies which apply to this class such as dress codes, attendance requirements particular to the program and or course, class etiquette expectations etc.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.